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GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT: REGIONAL DISARMAMENT

REVIEW AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONCLUDING DOCUMENT OF THE TWELFTH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY: REGIONAL CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURES

MAINTENANCE OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Letter dated 26 January 1996 from the Permanent Representative of Ecuador to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I am transmitting herewith a copy of the press release issued in Lima on 18 January 1996 following the meeting of the Foreign Ministers of Ecuador and Peru, in which the high-level representatives of the guarantor countries of the 1942 Protocol of Rio de Janeiro participated and made a valuable contribution (see annex).

As stated in the press release, the negotiations to identify procedures for dealing with point 6 of the Itamaraty Declaration are to be continued in Quito on 22 and 23 February 1996 in the spirit of confidence-building which the Declaration has inspired.

I should be grateful if you would arrange for this letter and its annex to be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under the agenda items entitled "General and complete disarmament: regional disarmament", "Review and implementation of the concluding document of the twelfth special session of the General Assembly: regional confidence-building measures" and "Maintenance of international security", and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Luis VALENCIA RODRIGUEZ
Permanent Representative

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ANNEX

Press release issued in Lima on 18 January 1996

At the invitation of the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Peru, Mr. Francisco Tudela, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ecuador, Mr. Galo Leoro Franco, made an official visit to Peru on 17 and 18 January 1996.

The Foreign Minister of Ecuador and his entourage were received by the President of the Republic of Peru, Mr. Alberto Fujimori, at the Government Palace, and by the Foreign Minister, Mr. Francisco Tudela, at the Torre Tagle Palace.

Various rounds of talks were held with the aim of making a start in identifying procedures to be followed for dealing with point 6 of the Itamaraty Declaration, which relates to the solution of the remaining impasses, and for deepening the process of adopting confidence-building measures.

The high-ranking representatives of Argentina, Brazil, Chile and the United States of America, the guarantor countries of the Rio de Janeiro Protocol, participated in the talks and made a valuable contribution.

As a result of the meeting, agreements were reached on the continuation of the peace process, the venue for the talks, the composition of the delegations, the confidential nature of the talks, the role of the guarantor countries and the need to extend the Ecuador-Peru Military Observer Mission.

The Foreign Ministers of Ecuador and Peru placed on record their satisfaction at the high degree of progress that had been made. The negotiations will be continued in Quito on 22 and 23 February 1996.

The Ministers expressed their conviction that the achievement of a final solution to the problems between the two countries was imperative for peace and the well-being of the Peruvian and Ecuadorian peoples and for Latin American unity.

The Foreign Minister of Peru presented to the Foreign Minister of Ecuador and the representatives of the guarantor countries a proposal aimed at achieving their common objective of promoting confidence in the military sphere.

The two Ministers expressed their high appreciation for the willingness of the guarantor countries to participate actively in the process of eliminating the remaining impasses between the two countries.

Mr. Galo Leoro expressed his gratitude to the Government of Peru for the attention and courtesy shown to him.